

Claim Amendments:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, comprising:
 - a first adhering unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to the first object, and a second adhering surface;
 - a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface that is adhered to the second adhering surface of the first adhering unit;
 - a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to a second surface of the backer/stabilizer;
 - a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and
 - a second adhering unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object.

2. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 1, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of styrofoam, wood, plastic, cardboard, spongy material, card stock, and any combination thereof.

3. (Withdrawn) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, comprising:
 - a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer being either a rigid or a semi-rigid element;

a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to the second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener;

an adhesive unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object; and

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

4. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the means for attaching includes at least one of stapling, gluing, sewing, tying and taping the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

5. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the means for attaching comprises:

connecting means for connecting to a portion of the first object to attach the first object to the backer/stabilizer, the connecting means being integrally formed as part of the backer/stabilizer.

6. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 5, wherein the connecting means is one of: a protruding region for coupling to a cavity portion of the first object, and a cavity region for coupling to a protruding portion of the first object.

7. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of plastic, cardboard, and card stock.

8. (Previously Presented) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element having first and second ends;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including a first opening and a second opening, the backer/stabilizer being either a rigid or a semi-rigid element;

a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to a second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener having a back side that is attached to the second object;

wherein the first end of the affixing element is fitted through the first opening of the backer/stabilizer and the second end of the affixing element is fitted through the second opening of the backer/stabilizer, so that a first portion of the affixing element is disposed within the first opening and a second portion of the affixing element is disposed within the second opening, and

wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together to provide a coupling of the first object to the backer/stabilizer.

9. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of plastic, metal, heavy paperboard, posterboard, rigid paperstock, cardboard, and card stock.

10. (Currently Amended) An attachment device for releasably attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:

an affixing element;

a backer/stabilizer having at least one opening, cut-out or channel for receiving a portion of the affixing element;

a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that is adhesively coupled to ~~one~~ a bottom surface of the backer/stabilizer,

wherein a portion of the affixing element is disposed between the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener and the ~~one~~ bottom surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a first releasably adhesive surface that is configured to be releasably coupled to the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and

an adhesive material provided on a second surface of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener,

wherein the adhesive material is adhered to the second object, and

wherein affixing element holds the first object onto the attachment device.

11. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 10, wherein the at least one opening comprises at least two openings that are one of: a) at least two holes passing from the top surface to the bottom surface of the backer/stabilizer, the at least two holes formed in a middle portion of the backer/stabilizer, and b) at least two cut-outs formed at respective ends of the backer/stabilizer.

12. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer includes a channel formed on the second surface of the backer/stabilizer, for holding the affixing element in place within the channel.

13. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 10, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of plastic, metal, heavy paperboard, posterboard, rigid paperstock, cardboard, and card stock.

14. (Withdrawn) A reusable ornament for attachment to an object, comprising:

an ornamental portion; and

a coupling portion for coupling the ornamental portion to the object,

wherein the coupling portion includes:

a ribbon for wrapping around the object, the ribbon including:

a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener provided adjacent a first end of the ribbon on a first surface of the ribbon;

a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener provided adjacent a second end of the ribbon on a second surface of the ribbon opposite the first surface; and

means for attaching the ribbon to the ornamental portion,

wherein the first and second adhesive and/or mechanical fasteners are attached to each other when the ribbon is wrapped around the object.

Claims 15. – 20. (Canceled).

21. (Withdrawn) A method for constructing an attachment device for releasably attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:

attaching a backer/stabilizer to the first object;

attaching a non-releasably attachable surface of a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to the backer/stabilizer;

attaching a non-releasably attachable surface of a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to the second object; and

coupling respective releasably adhesive surfaces of the first and second adhesive and/or mechanical fasteners to each other.

22. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein the backer/stabilizer is attached to the first object by one of an adhesive material, glue, staple and sewing thread.

23. (Withdrawn The method according to claim 22, further comprising:
removing a peel-off protective cover on one surface of the
backer/stabilizer prior to attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

Claims 24. - 33. (Canceled).

34. (Previously Presented) An attachment device for a first object to
be releasably attached to a second object and later to a third object, comprising:
an affixing element;
a backer/stabilizer being of either a rigid or semi-rigid construction and
providing backing and stability, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening,
cut-out, or channel for receiving the affixing element;
means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object;
an adhesive unit having first and second adhesive surfaces, such that the
adhesive unit adheres to the backer/stabilizer by way of the first adhesive
surface, and such that the adhesive unit adheres to the second object by way of
the second adhesive surface,
wherein, after the backer/stabilizer has been detached from the second
object and prior to reuse of the backer/stabilizer and the first object for
attachment to the third object, the adhesive unit is removed from the
backer/stabilizer to allow another adhesive unit to be adhered thereto.

Claims 35. – 42. (Canceled).

43. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) An attachment device
for attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:
an affixing element having first and second ends coupled together;
a backer/stabilizer that is provided on a first portion of the attachment
device, the backer/stabilizer being of either a rigid or semi-rigid construction and

providing backing and stability, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening, cut-out, or channel for receiving the affixing element;

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object;

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the second object;

a hanger portion that is provided on a second portion of the attachment device, the hanger portion allowing the attachment device to be hung on a display device; and

perforating means provided on the attachment device to allow a user to separate the first portion from the second portion.

44. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together in a region between the second surface of the backer/stabilizer and the back side of the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener.

45. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 12, wherein the first and second ends are coupled together and wherein a portion of the affixing element is disposed within the channel on the second surface of the backer/stabilizer.

46. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 44, wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are disposed against the second surface of the backer/stabilizer.

47. (Previously Presented) An attachment device formed by an attachment method for releasably attaching a first object to a second object, the method comprising:

affixing a backer/stabilizer to the first object by way of an affixing element that has first and second ends, the backer/stabilizer providing a stable backing for the first object, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening for receiving

one of the first and second ends of the affixing element to provide a coupling of the affixing element to the backer/stabilizer when the first and second ends are coupled together;

releasably adhering a releasable adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit to the backer/stabilizer and to the second object, the releasable adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit having first and second attachable surfaces which correspond to top and bottom surfaces of the first releasable adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit, in which the first attachable surface is releasably attached to the backer/stabilizer, and in which the second attachable surface is releasably attached to the second object; and

thereafter, detaching the second object from the second attachable surface of the releasable adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit and detaching the backer/stabilizer from the first attachable surface of the first releasable adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit,

the attachment device comprising:

the affixing element;

the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening for receiving one of the first and second ends of the affixing element; and

the releasable and/or mechanical fastening unit releasably adhered to the backer/stabilizer.

48. (Currently Amended) The attachment device ~~formed by the method~~ according to claim 47, wherein the releasable adhesive and/or mechanical fastening ~~units~~ unit corresponds to a double-sided releasable adhesive strip.

49. (Currently Amended) The attachment device ~~formed by the method~~ according to claim 48, wherein the releasable adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit includes a non-adhesive tab portion.

50. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer is a plastic part, and wherein a portion of the affixing element is integrally formed within the backer/stabilizer.

51. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein the backer/stabilizer is formed out of plastic, the method further comprising:

heating the backer/stabilizer while at a same time fitting an affixing element onto the backer/stabilizer, to thereby form a composite structure in which the backer/stabilizer is rigidly coupled to the affixing element and in which the affixing element is utilized to attach the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

52. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 51, wherein the affixing element is one of: a wire, an elastic band, a string, a plastic tie, and an adjustable ring.

53. (Previously Presented) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface facing the first object and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including at least one opening for receiving a portion of the affixing element;

an adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a first releasable attachment surface and a second releasable attachment surface opposite to the first releasable attachment surface,

wherein the first releasable attachment surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener is releasably attached to the second surface of the backer/stabilizer,

wherein the second releasable attachment surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener is releasably attached to the second object, and

wherein the affixing element affixes the first object to the backer/stabilizer.

54. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 53, wherein the backer/stabilizer has two openings in which a first portion of the affixing element is fitted through one of the two openings and in which a second portion of the affixing element is fitted through the other of the two openings, and

wherein the affixing element forms a closed-loop affixing element, and

wherein a portion of the affixing element is disposed between and thereby sandwiched between the backer/stabilizer and the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener.

55. (Previously Presented) An attachment device for attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:

an adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a first surface, and a second surface for releasable attachment to the second object, the first surface and the second surface being on opposite sides of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener;

a backer/stabilizer releasably attached to the first surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening, cut-out or channel, the backer/stabilizer providing backing and stability for the first object when the backer/stabilizer is affixed to the first object; and

an affixing element that affixes the first object to the backer/stabilizer, the affixing element being coupled to the backer/stabilizer by way of the at least one opening, cut-out or channel of the backer/stabilizer.

56. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the affixing element is integrally formed as a part of the backer/stabilizer.

57. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 56, wherein the affixing element is of a same material composition as the backer/stabilizer.

58. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 56, wherein the affixing element corresponds to a spike or nub disposed in a substantially middle portion on a top surface of the backer/stabilizer,

wherein the first object includes a hollow base, and

wherein hollow base of the first object is fitted onto the spike or nub, to thereby affix the first object to the backer/stabilizer.

59. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 56, wherein the affixing element corresponds to a cup-shaped element disposed at a substantially middle portion on a top surface of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein the first object includes a stub end, and

wherein the stub end of the first object is fitted onto the cup-shaped element, to thereby affix the first object to the backer/stabilizer.

60. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener further comprises:

a first non-adhesive tab portion that abuts the first surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and

a second non-adhesive tab portion that abuts the second surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener,

wherein the first and second non-adhesive tab portions allow a user to detach the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener from the second object by pulling on the first and second non-adhesive tab portions.

61. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the backer/stabilizer includes a first opening and a second opening that pass entirely through the backer/stabilizer,

wherein the affixing element has a first end and a second end, and

wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are fitted through the first and second openings of the backer/stabilizer, respectively, such

that first and second portions of the affixing element are respectively disposed within the first and second openings of the backer/stabilizer.

62. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the first object corresponds to an ornamental ribbon or bow.

63. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the second object corresponds to gift wrap.

64. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the backer/stabilizer includes a first cut-out provided on a first ~~side~~ edge of the backer/stabilizer and a second cut-out provided on a second ~~side~~ edge of the backer/stabilizer opposite the first ~~side~~ edge,

wherein a first portion and a second portion of the affixing element are respectively disposed within the first and second cut-outs of the backer/stabilizer, so as to couple the affixing element to the backer/stabilizer.

65. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 55, further comprising:

a peel-off protective cover that covers the second surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener,

wherein the peel-off protective cover is removed to expose an adhesive surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener.

66. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the backer/stabilizer includes a channel formed on a surface facing the releasable attachment unit, and

wherein a portion of the affixing element is held in place within the channel of the backer/stabilizer when the backer/stabilizer is coupled to the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener.

67. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 12, wherein the channel formed on the second surface of the backer/stabilizer extends from a first edge to a second edge of the backer/stabilizer.

68. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 64, wherein the first and second cut-outs each comprises:

a linear portion that extends inwards from an edge of the backer/stabilizer;
and

a circular portion that abuts an inward end of the linear portion,
wherein portions of the affixing element are disposed within the circular portions of the first and second cut-outs.

69. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 68, wherein the circular portion is wider than the linear portion for each of the first and second cut-outs.

70. (Previously Presented) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element having first and second ends;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including a first opening and a second opening, the backer/stabilizer being either a rigid or a non-rigid element;

a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to a second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and

an adhesive for adhering a back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to a surface of the second object,

wherein the first end of the affixing element is fitted through the first opening of the backer/stabilizer and back up through the second opening of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein, after the first end of the affixing element has been fitted through the first and second openings, the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together to enable a coupling of the first object to the backer/stabilizer and thereby to the second object.

71. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 70, further comprising:

a protective covering that covers the adhesive, wherein the protective covering is removed from the adhesive to allow the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to be adhesively attached to the second object.

72. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 70, wherein the second surface of the backer/stabilizer comprises a channel that is depressed with respect to a remaining portion of the second surface, and

wherein the affixing element is fitted within the channel of the backer/stabilizer.

73. (Previously Presented) An attachment device for a first object to be attached to a second object, the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including at least one opening, the backer/stabilizer being either a rigid or a semi-rigid element; and

an adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that attaches the backer/stabilizer to a surface of the second object,

wherein the affixing element is fitted through the at least one opening of the backer/stabilizer to couple the affixing element to the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein the first object is coupled to the affixing element to thereby attach the first object to the backer/stabilizer and thereby to the second object.

74. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 73,

wherein the backer/stabilizer comprises at least ~~one of an opening~~ two openings, a cut-out, or a channel, and

wherein the affixing element is fitted within the ~~opening~~ at least two openings, cut-out or channel.

75. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the affixing element is selected from the group consisting of: covered wire, wire, nylon, plastic, ribbon, zip lock tie, plastic tie, ribbon, clamp, adjustable ring, string, thread, braid, spike, staple, barrette, pin, hair pin, elastic band, thread, twist tie, wire tie, plastic locking device, zip tie, interlocking pieces, or combinations thereof.

76. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the affixing element comprises a first end and a second end, and

wherein a first portion of the affixing element is disposed within a first opening of the backer/stabilizer, a second portion of the affixing element is disposed within a second opening of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together.

77. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the affixing element comprises a first end and a second end, and

wherein the first end of the affixing element is fitted through a first opening of the backer/stabilizer and then through a second opening of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together.

78. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 73, further comprising:

a protective covering that covers one surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, wherein the protective covering is removed from the one surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to allow the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to be adhesively attached to the second object.

79. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 8, further comprising:

a protective covering that covers the ~~adhesive strip~~ back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, wherein the protective covering is removed from the ~~adhesive strip~~ back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to allow the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to be adhesively attached to the second object.

80. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the adhesive and or mechanical fastener further comprises at least one of: adhesive, pressure sensitive adhesive, removable adhesive, reusable adhesive, sticky backing, ~~double stick tape~~, double sided adhesive ~~tape~~, double sided removable adhesive ~~tape~~, double sided removable adhesive ~~tape~~ with non-adhesive tab ~~portion~~, double sided reusable adhesive ~~tape~~, double sided reusable adhesive ~~tape~~ non-adhesive with tab ~~portion~~, interlocking fastener, hook-and-loop fastener, and magnet.

81. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein said backer/stabilizer includes a hanger portion that facilitates hanging the first object on a display rack, the hanger portion being attached to a

remaining portion of the backer/stabilizer by way of a perforated line that allows a user to detach the hanger portion from the remaining portion of the backer/stabilizer.

82. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the affixing element is part of the first object.

83. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 8, further comprising:

an ~~adhering~~ adhesive element that has a first ~~adhering~~ adhesive surface for adhering to a back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, and a second ~~adhering~~ adhesive surface for adhering to a surface of the second object.

84. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer is an integral component made of a same material.

85. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer has a flat shape.

86. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the backer/stabilizer is an integral component made of a same material.

87. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the backer/stabilizer has a flat shape.

88. (Previously Presented) The attachment device according to claim 12, wherein the channel forms a groove on the second surface of the backer/stabilizer.